GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:92
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2005
CONGESTION AT DOCKS AND PORTS
Oram Shri Jual;Rawale Shri Mohan

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain Docks and Ports are facing problems due to massive congestion;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to remove the congestion;

(d) whether any National Maritime Development Programme has been finalised by the Government;

(e) if so, the salient features thereof with regard to Docks and Ports;

(f) the time by which the said development programme is likely to be launched; and

(g) the total amount envisaged to be invested for implementing National Maritime Development Programme?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.92 FOR ANSWER ON 29TH NOVEMBER, 2005 RAISED BY SHRI JUAL ORAM AND SHRI MOHAN RAWALE REGARDING CONGESTION AT DOCKS AND PORTS.

(a) & (b) None of the major ports are facing problems due to massive congestion. However, sometimes delays in berthing of vessels occur due to bunching of vessels or the problems like inclement weather etc. The congestion sometime is also caused due to constraints in cargo evacuation.

(c) Major Ports, on the whole, are well equipped to handle sea-borne traffic. However the augmentation of the capacity is an ongoing process keeping in view the demands of maritime trade and this is achieved by undertaking steps such as deepening of channels to facilitate berthing of large vessels, construction of new berths, upgradation/expansion of existing berths, modernisation of cargo handling equipments, improvement in storage capacity, upgradation of internal circulation system for smooth cargo movement within the port area and improvements in rail and road connectivity to hinterland.

(d) to (g) The Government has taken up preparation of the National Maritime Development Programme which would include specific schemes and projects to be taken up over a period upto the year 2011-12. The total investment in the proposed Programme is estimated to be Rs.1,00,000 crores out of which investment in the Port Sector is expected to be about Rs.60,000 crores. The Programme is proposed to be implemented through public private partnership. Public investments are planned primarily for creation of common user infrastructure facilities. Private investments are expected in the areas where operations are primarily commercial in nature.